

## Message Text

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65

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CU-02 NEA-10 /087 W  
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R 041214Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9840

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR GH OCON UNESCO

SUBJ: AFRICAN MINISTERS OF CULTURE CONFERENCE

REF: ACCRA 7190

1. DEBATE ON ITEM 9, CULTURAL COOPERATION FEATURED INTERVENTIONS BY 24 DELEGATIONS. PERMREP JONES DELIVERED US OBSERVER INTERVENTION WHICH WAS EXTREMELY WELL RECEIVED. MANY DELEGATIONS HAVE ASKED FOR COPIES OF STATEMENT, WHICH RAN FOR TEN MINUTES, AND GHANA PRESS ASKED FOR COPY FOR PRESS COVERAGE.

2. OTHER OBSERVERS SPEAKING WERE HOLY SEE AND GERMAN DEM. REP. FORMER STRESSED NEED FOR AFRICANS NOT TO REJECT OUTSIDE CULTURAL VALUES AND BECOME "LEAF WITHERED INTO ITSELF". HOLY SEE ALSO STRESSED NEED FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS. GDR EXPRESSED CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR AFRICAN CULTURAL IDENTITY AND COOPERATION BY "SOCIALIST" STATES. GDR OFFERED AFRICANS USE OF ANY OF THEIR FACILITIES, I.E. UNIVERSITIES, RESEARCH CENTERS, ETC. AND HELD ITSELF OUT AS A MODEL OF IDEOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT THE AFRICANS MIGHT WISH TO FOLLOW IF THEY SEE FIT.

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3. SUMMARY OF AFRICAN INTERVENTIONS REPORTED BY SEPTTEL.

4. OVER FORTY RESOLUTIONS HAVE NOW BEEN INTRODUCED ON AGENDA ITEMS. NONE, SO FAR, HAVE ANY POLITICAL TONES NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE AFRICAN CONTEXT. RESOLUTION BY GUINEA STRESSED NEED FOR CULTURAL ACTIVITY WHICH STRESSED NECESSITY FOR "TOTAL LIBERATION OF AFRICAN PEOPLES". BUT NO RESOLUTION HAS RAISED ZIONIST THEME ALTHOUGH DELEGATE FROM UGANDA MENTIONED IT IN HIS INTERVENTION. RESOLUTIONS ARE NOW BEING COMBINED INTO SERIES OF RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED ON WEDNESDAY.

5. AT LAST MOMENT, AFTER INTENSE BEHIND THE SCENES ACTIVITY, SENEGAL WAS PERSUADED NOT TO INTRODUCE CALLING FOR SEPARATE BLACK AFRICAN CULTURAL CONFERENCE. SECRETARIAT POINTED OUT THAT UNESCO HAD TO SEPARATE REGION FOR BLACK AFRICA AND COULD NOT FIT SUCH A CONFERENCE IN UNDER REGIONAL FRAMEWORK. NIGERIANS REPORTEDLY URGED SENEGAL NOT TO INTRODUCE AS SUCH A RESOLUTION MIGHT PREJUDICE UPCOMING WORLD BLACK AND AFRICAN FESTIVAL OF ARTS AND CULTURE WHICH HAS BEEN BROADENED TO INCLUDE ALL OF AFRICAN CONTINENT, AS WELL AS BLACK COMMUNITIES THOUGHOUT WORLD. NIGERIANS DID NOT WANT DIVISIVE ELEMENT INTRODUCED WHICH COULD CREATE CONTROVERSY FOR FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN LAGOS. HOWEVER, IN SCHOLARLY INTERVENTION NIGERIAN DELEGATION POINTEDLY MADE STATEMENT THAT NO ONE CULTURAL GROUP IN AFRICAN SHOULD ATTEMPT TO DOMINATE OR IMPOSE ITS WILL ON OTHERS. THIS WAS WARING TO ARABS THAT BLACK AFRICAN EXPECT EQUALITY AND WILL NOT TOLERATE ATTEMPTS BY ARABS TO IMPOSE THEIR WILL. ETHIOPIAN MIN.CULTURE, HABTE, TOLD PERMREP THAT IN HIS VIEW AFRO-ARAB SPLIT IS ONLY TEMPORARILY POSTPONED AND "SEEDS WERE SOWN" BY SENEGALIST INTERVENTION.

6. ON THEIR PART, ARABS ARE MUCH MORE SUBDUED. NOTABLE THAT THEIR INTERVENTIONS WERE STRICTLY TO POINT AND DID NOT GET INTO POLITICAL REALM. THEY STRESSED NEED FOR ALL AFRICAN COOPERATION, INTERCHANGE AND UNITY. FOUR ARAB DELEGATIONS WAITED UNTIL TAIL END OF DEBATE TO MAKE INTERVENTIONS. ALGERIA, TUNISIA, SUDAN AND MOROCCO CONCLUDED THE LIST OF SPEAKERS INSTEAD OF COMING EARLY IN DEBATE AS HAS BEEN CUSTOMARY.

7. CONFERENCE HAS BEEN REFRESHING EXPERIENCE SINCE MEETINGS HAVE CONCENTRATED ON THEME OF CONFERENCE, GENERALLY FINISHED ON TIME, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS HAVE FEATURED WELL PLANNED REASONABLY TIMED INTERVENTIONS. GHANIAN COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, A POLICE OFFICER IN UNIFORM, HAS EXERCISED TIGHT CONTROL AND IMPOSED TIME LIMITS ON INTERVENTIONS WHENEVER MEETING SEEMED TO BE GETTING BEHIND. DELEGATIONS SEEM QUITE SATISFIED WITH PROGRESS OF CONFERENCE AND SECRETARIAT HAS NOT BEEN CRITICIZED.  
BLACK

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## Message Attributes

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